

# Gospel Identity

## SESSION 4-2 - *Stereotypical Youth*

Many times our church and our societies opinions and views of young people, let alone young Christians, will be distorted by stereotypes and rumors.

1. What are some stereotypes (positive or negative) YOU have heard, or even believe about your own generation and age group?

Positive:

Negative:

2. What about young Christians? Are the stereotypes and rumors the same for them?

Read **1 Timothy 4:12**

3. Do you think the rumors and stereotypes about young people would go away if more of the younger generation practiced what Paul told Timothy to do in 4:12?

“Set an example in Speech, Conduct, Love, Faith, and Purity.”

Sometimes though the opinion of others, although they may seem negative, are sometimes necessary. And no matter what, we must obey and respect them.

Discuss who you think YOU as a young Christian must always obey and respect, right now.

Then...

Read **1 Timothy 5:1-2**

Read **Ephesians 6:1-4**

Read **Titus 2:1-8**

Read **Leviticus 19:32**

4. What are some wrong ways you have seen other young people or even yourselves reject the opinions or advice of others? Who were the people being rejected?

Going back to 1 Timothy 4:12 there is no way we can know how to set an example in these 5 way's unless we watch and listen to our parents, elders, teachers, pastors, and parents. What? Did I say parents twice? I wonder why?

So can you think of the reasons why it's important to listen to and respect those more seasoned (older) than us? One of the main ones is to better understand our identity in Christ, and better learn who we are.

We don't strive to be better in Speech, Conduct, Love, Faith, and Purity in order to exalt ourselves. It's always to exalt our Father in Heaven. Which is the same reason why we are supposed to listen to and be respectful towards the generation older than us, whether that's our parents, elders, teachers, pastors, or parents.

5. Think back to the first question, do YOU fit into any of the negative rumors or stereotypes of young people?
6. Yes, or no, is this stereotypical behavior something that is stopping you from exalting God as much as possible?

### Your Weekly Task... Choose one, or do both anyways!!

- Find one elder, or teacher, or pastor, or parent and ask them what they think the negative and positive stereotypes of your generation are. Ask them how you can have better Speech, Conduct, Love, Faith, and Purity. If you're really gutsy ask them if you fit into any of those stereotypes.
- Don't argue with your parents do everything they say right there and then. **Philippians 2:14. Ephesians 6:1-4.**

My accountability partner is \_\_\_\_\_

Their number is \_\_\_\_\_

I'm going to text/call on \_\_\_\_\_

Pray out with your accountability partner.

Shawn's tip of the (Sun)day: To be honest you are always wrong in an argument or conversation until proven respectful and right. Ask Shawn if you don't understand this one.

1 Timothy 4:12

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in **CONDUCT**, in love, in **FAITH** and in **purity**.